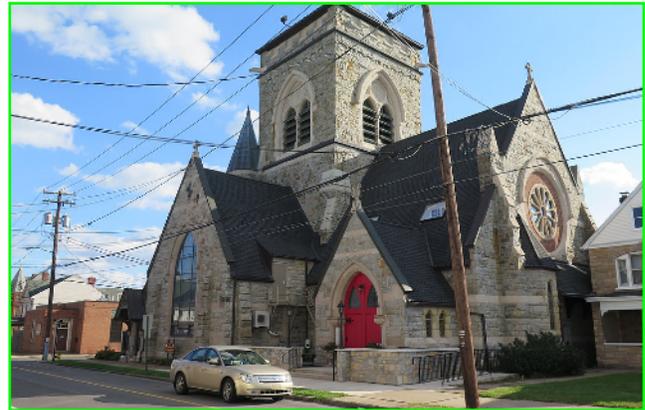


THE CORNERSTONE



A Collect for Shaped By Faith

God of wisdom and love, in whom we find our joy: Help us to listen for your Word and to discern your way forward for our Church. Give us the insight to hold on to what is true, the courage to explore new ideas, and the boldness to create with you. Let us be Shaped by Faith for your mission; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever. Amen

**“The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.”
Psalm 118:22**

27 “But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. 28 Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. 29 If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don’t withhold your shirt either. 30 Give to everyone who asks and don’t demand your things back from those who take them. 31 Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you. ([Luke 6: 27-31](#) – Common English Bible)

This year’s diocesan convention was unique and inspiring. The convention was also fierce and faithful. As the diocese’s new Canon for Mission Development and Innovation – The Rev. Canon Chris Streeter said: “We are not called by our God to be safe ... if we are truly open to being agents of God’s transformation then Watch Out! Because God is going to call us to places that we otherwise might not have gone. ...” If you’re on Facebook, you can watch and listen to Canon Streeter’s presentation on the diocese’s [Facebook page](#). (I’ll update everyone when the videos are located elsewhere on the web. Perhaps our parish’s Shaped by Faith team would like to host a watch party (hint!).

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Shaped by Faith is a saintly undertaking. Let's begin on All Saints Weekend then! All Saints Day invites all of us to "follow God's blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those [ineffable](#) (too great to be described by words) joys that you have prepared for those who truly love God. In Luke's Gospel – Jesus teaches anyone who will listen some of God's opportunities for becoming a saint. Be happy when people are mistreating you. Be joyous when people reject or condemn you because of your Christian faith. Don't withhold your clothing from someone who asks for some while possessing none. Simply put, Love abundantly as you yearn to be loved. It is no wonder then that Jesus later

on "What is impossible for humans is possible for God." ([Luke 18: 27](#) – Common English Bible). Christ's statement regarding the impossibility of saintly life occurs in Luke 12 chapters after his Sermon on the Plain. Clearly the disciples have been on a pilgrimage for many miles by then.

Signing up for Shaped by Faith – mirrors Peter's, James', and John's travels with Jesus Christ on The Way. We are contemporary saints in training. We listen to The Word and receive the sacraments on Sundays. We offer diapers to our neighbors on Saturdays, serve meals at the Jubilee Kitchen, and offer hospitality to children from all over Central Pennsylvania in the Trains Room. Most importantly, we live faithfully into Jesus' call to be peacemakers, healers apostles, righteous, merciful in our homes, offices, school rooms, volunteer opportunities, and so many other daily devotions and duties, Yet, there is more that we can do beyond our church building and residential locations.

Our celebration of All Saints Day at Christ Memorial this year is an effort to accomplish a few holy and wholly objectives. First, we continue to thank God for The Church's Saints as well as the saints in our midst. We celebrate the arrival of The Gospel & Acts Volume of [The Heritage Edition](#) of The Saint John's Bible. And, we welcome The Rev. Canon Christ Streeter to be with us to launch formally Christ Memorial's involvement in Shaped by Faith. It is a big day to bring into being our shared efforts. Together, with re-vitalized faith, we will offer Christ's Gospel more beautifully in our worship as well as beyond the parish's traditional walls and practices.

My prayer and goal for Christ Memorial in the time that I remain here is to encourage re-shaped and inspired saintly life, beginning with myself. Let us work, pray, and play with one another, and the Triune God to breathe and bring into being the second and third sentences of Bishop Scanlan's Collect for Shaped by Faith:

(God) Help us to listen for your Word and to discern your way forward for our Church. Give us the insight to hold on to what is true, the courage to explore new ideas, and the boldness to create with you. ...

Blessings along The Way, Jim



Sower and the Seed, Aidan Hart with contributions from Donald Jackson and Sally Mae Joseph, Copyright 2002, The Saint John's Bible, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Save the Date

We Invite You to Our

ALL SAINTS DAY FESTIVAL

Celebrating the Arrival of



Sunday,
November 3
8 am to 4 pm

Worship Services
Open House
Creative Children's
Activities
in the Afternoon

Call of the Disciples, Donald Jackson,
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CHRIST MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Corner of Market and Pine Streets • Danville, PA 17821
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Diocesan Convention Fun



We got a chance to be creative with Play-Doh, Legos, and other materials during one of the convention sessions. Bishop Scanlan tasked up with designing something that we heard from the lessons and/or gospel we heard during the Liturgy of the Word. The Gospel for the day was from [Luke 10:1-12](#). Jesus sends out 72 “others” into the towns and villages ahead of him. Their mission is to proclaim that “God’s Kingdom has been near.” Jesus cautions these “[others](#)” (uncertain affinity, not of the same class, different) that they are akin to being lambs among wolves.

We only had 15 minutes and I haven’t fooled around with Play-Doh for any significant amount of time since I was probably 5 years old. I felt silly – maybe a little like Jesus’ apostles when they went out to talk with strangers.

This was my reluctant and hurried response. I wonder, what do you see, if anything? I have an idea of what I was striving to convey. What do you observe or discern? (Further down the page you’ll see what I was striving to convey)

A Year with the Saint John’s Bible

Dear Members of Christ Memorial,

Our year with The Saint John’s Bible is about to begin! The team’s goal is for everyone to experience the beauty, richness, and inspiration The Saint John’s Bible offers. We hope you experience the spiritual connection we did as we read through and were inspired by the beautiful illuminations.

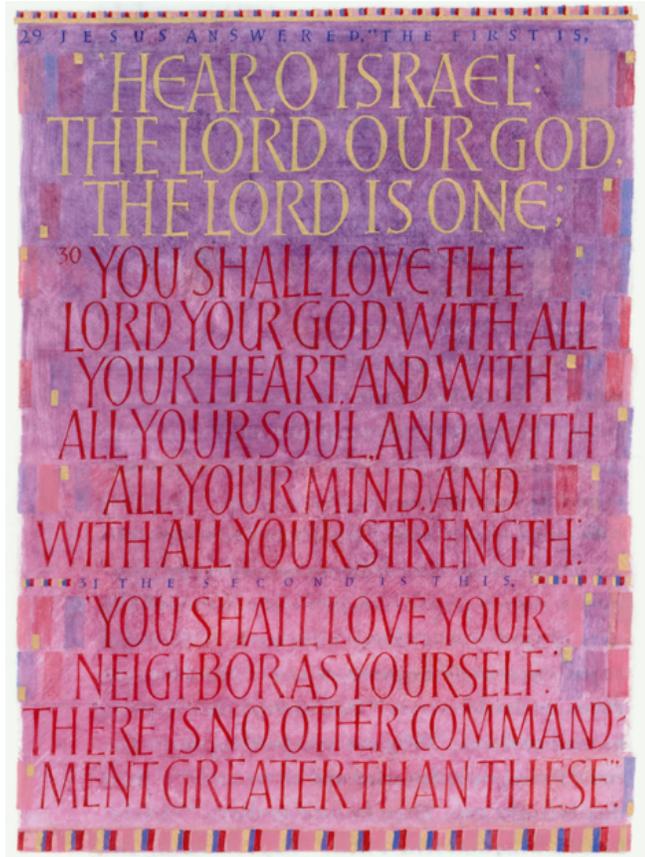
This work of sacred art allows one to hear God’s Word and see that living Word of God present and active among us.

We will receive the sixth volume of the series, Gospel & Acts. This volume features some of the most inspiring illuminations such as the Genealogy of Jesus, The Crucifixion and many others to be explored.

Please join us on Sunday, November 3 to visit with this multicultural, contemporary, magnificent Bible.

Respectfully, Debbie Stayer

My artistic attempt was to focus attention upon Christ’s sacraments What do it mean to live a sacramental, saintly life? My hope is that All Saints Day, Shaped By Faith, and A Year with The Saint John’s Bible will open windows and break down walls as we proclaim the nearness of God’s Reign here and now.



Hear, O Israel, Hazel Dolby, Copyright 2002, *The Saint John’s Bible*, Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Announcements and Upcoming

Vestry Meeting Sunday November 10th at 11:45pm. All who are interested are invited to attend.

Advent Soup, Bread and Worship. Looking to take a breath during Advent? Join us for a potluck of soup and bread **Wednesday nights in Advent (December 4, 11 and 18) starting at 6:00 pm.** We will gather, eat the soup and bread that are available, take time in community together, and have a brief evening prayer service after the meal. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend, a crock pot of soup, whatever bread you have lying around enjoy fellowship in the midst of the busy season. Questions, see **Father Jim** or **Doug Cummings**.

Telling our Bible Stories. Using the St. John’s Bible as a resource, we will be engaging each other in conversation at 9:00 AM each Sunday, talking about how the Bible has shaped our lives. Please contact Jim if you have any questions.

The Sunday School is looking for assistance. There are too many children! While this is a wonderful problem, help is needed. If you can help out with this important ministry, either with the little ones in the Nursery or with the Elementary aged children in the classroom, please talk to **Susan Nunan** or **Father Jim**.

We are also considering offering a nursery for infants to 3 year old children. We’d like to begin as soon as possible. Please talk to Jim if you would like to volunteer. Please also let Jim know if you require initial or updated Safeguarding God’s Children training.

Birthdays in November	
5- Tom Nunan	
10- Bradley Cummings	
17- Stacey Cummings	
17- Ursula Kessler	
20- Victor J. Koons	
26- Beth Martinson	

Shaped by Faith

Earlier this year we talked about cooperating with other congregations to establish some common goals. CMEC along with ST. Paul's, Bloomsburg and Christ Church, Berwick has had several meetings. Since we started this effort the Diocese has begun to roll out a program called "Shaped by Faith". This new program and our cooperative efforts are nearly one and the same, therefore we will be using this new terminology.

Sharing and cooperating with other parishes is not an attempt to close any church or for any parish to take over another. This effort is finding ways that we can share resources and or programs in order to help one another. The biggest of which is sharing Priests. The day of one Church one Priest are long gone. Why, you may ask, well in a nutshell there is a major shortage of Priests, and there very few entering the Priesthood. It is projected that 15 Priests will retire in Central Pennsylvania in the next 5 years, which is 35% of active clergy.

Clergy shortage outlook over the next 5 years across the Episcopal Church is bleak:

There are 18,500 priests in good standing, over 11,00 of which are retired. Only 7,500 are under the age of 66. 1,200 are expected to retire in the next 3-5 years, and if the current trend continues only 400 priests will be ordained, leaving 4,700 active clergy for 6,473 churches.

Finding part time priests are next to impossible due to this shortage. Now while we at CMEC can afford a full-time priest we must ask the question; do we need a full-time priest? The answer is no. Since most of our neighboring parishes cannot afford a full-time priest, it would be wise to cooperate or share with another parish(s).

There are many details to be worked out and there will be many more meetings. Rest assured that the Vestry will not make any commitments without first securing our congregation's input and approval.

The diocese has developed a survey and are requesting everyone to complete. Completing this survey, either online or on paper, will require some considerable thought (and time). But, for the sake our future, we ask you to make a commitment to complete this very important and necessary task.

Here is the link to complete the survey online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C3HQW58>.

Paper copies of the survey will be available at the church.

Our members working on this effort are Father Jim, Dave Peterson, Michelle Walczak, Erin Ryan, Jenn Patterson is an alternate. Please feel free to ask anyone of us questions

CMEC Vestry Meeting Minutes September 8, 2019

Present: Father Jim, Dave Peterson, Michelle Walczak, Tom Dulsky, Jennifer Patterson

Opening: Father Jim opened with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the July meeting on July 14th were previously distributed. Motion made by Dave and seconded by Michelle to accept minutes as submitted. Motion passed 4/0/0.

1. Priest in Charge's Report:

b. The amount of individuals attending mass is currently increasing.

c. Individuals from St. Paul's are attending our worship service. Thursday, Father Jim will be meeting with the rector from St. Paul's to discuss concerns.

d. Jen will order different sizes of alter server gowns because it is proving to be a challenge to get all of the current individuals measured.

e. Cabinet door under the rectory sink needs to be replaced. Kathy's son will be contacted to see if he is able to make the cabinet doors.

f. Father Jim encouraged the vestry to consider how we want to advertise ourselves with the 2020 budget.

g. Mass will continue to be held at 10:30 am until the First Sunday in Advent (November). Maybe we will be able to do something with St. John's Bible between services? Father Jim will advertise the mass times in the bulletin.

1. Senior Warden:

b. Dave made a motion that we confirm our involvement in the Shape by Faith initiative. Seconded by Jen. Motion passed 4-0-0.

c. The house next door to the rectory questioned if water was coming from us because they were having water problems. However, it was found that the water is not coming from us.

d. Dave suggested that we begin to start talking about the budget for next year.

e. Dave expressed his concern that he noticed tape residue on the church doors and they are being propped open. Dave suggested that we need to send home a letter in October expressing that doors should not be taped or propped open. Also, if doors need to be unlocked, please give Dave or Michelle 24 hour notice.

1.

b. The red doors are refurbished.

c. Light bulbs are out in the main entrance into the church. Michelle will look into replacing the light bulbs.

d. Michelle never received an estimate for the flashing on the church roof. She will check to see if we are going to get an estimate from the people that she contacted.

e. The water meter was changed.

f. Michelle's goal is to start cleaning out the community room entrance.

g. We will have the west door refurbished, but we will wait and put that in for the 2020 budget.

h. Windows at the rectory were replaced by Diehl's.

i. It was discovered that we had one bad exit light. It was fixed.

j. We received a letter about our sign that is on a board that was hindering the visibility of people driving. Michelle and Tom will go and see if they can take the sign down after the meeting.

1. Cemetery:

• Mausoleum Trust- Doug needs a motion to close the trust. Motion made by Jen and seconded by Father Jim. Passed 4-0-0. (Note: Father Jim seconded the motion to avoid interest of executive staff.)

2. Advertising:

• Father Jim noted that there are about 20-50 people on our website each week.

3.

• It will need to be determined if the Diaper Bank will get a new shipment at the end of the year.

4.

Written report is as follows:

Between travel, kids at home, illness and Stacey's new job, this summer did not allow me the time that I had hoped to spend on getting the books back in order after the computer failure. Now that all of the kids are in school (for at least a few days a week) I will be able to spend the time to get them in order. My goal is for Quickbooks to be fully refilled by the end of the month.

The other change is that Santander, at least our branch, has been purchased by First Commonwealth Bank, and that takes effect on Monday. Our bookkeeper and I are both slated to receive online training this week on their systems. We will have change the signature cards, but we can do that offsite, on our own time, instead of having everybody need to descend on the bank together. I am in the process of updating our new accounts with the various financial institutions that electronically send us money.

I need a corporate resolution giving me the signing authority to liquidate the Edwards and Teter Mausoleums Trust (this is a trust started in 1934 to maintain the Edwards

Mausoleum) that will pay for the stained-glass window repair. Any remaining funds are to go towards future care of the mausoleum. Once I have that, I will sign the remaining paperwork in front of a notary and send it off. It will still take several months for all the legal hoops to be jumped, but we should have the money in hand before the work on the windows are completed.

Doug Cummings

•Meeting with Fulton on October the 8th to discuss cemetery trust. A percent for mission outreach??

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Shaped by Faith

•Bishop's letter was read at mass.

2. Youth Formation-

•Scaled back right now. Father Jim is glad when youth attends worship.

3. A Year w/ The St. John's Bible

•Father Jim will have lunch with Shannon from Geisinger to explain the opportunity St. John's Bible could be for Geisinger.

•We will take the St. John's Bible to the Diocesan Convention.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vestry and Warden Nominations

•Dave and Deb are cycling off, but Dave will return.

2. Diocesan Convention

•This will occur in mid-October and Michelle and Erin will go.

3. 2020 Budget and Stewardship Planning

•Father Jim has been in contact with St. Mary's Church and has submitted paperwork. He has a skype interview with them. Three members will come to Christ Church on the 15th and Father Jim will meet with them on the 24th.

4. Next Meeting: October 13th, 2019 @ 12:00 Noon

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tom Dulsky

November 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 8:00 AM Diaper Bank Truck Unload 10:00-12:00 Trains and Diaper Bank
3 St. John's Bible Open House 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM Telling our Bible Stories 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Eucharist	4 7:00-9:00 PM Frosty Friends (Community Room)	5 Jim in Harrisburg	6	7	8	9 10:00-12:00 Trains and Diaper Bank
10 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM Telling our Bible Stories 10:30 AM Eucharist 11:45 AM Vestry	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 7:00 PM Penn Writers	14	15	16 10:00-12:00 Trains and Diaper Bank
17 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM Telling our Bible Stories 10:30 AM Eucharist	18	19	20	21	22 Diocesan Youth Ministry Retreat Camp Mount Luther	23 10:00-12:00 Trains and Diaper Bank Youth Ministry Retreat
24 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:00 AM Telling our Bible Stories 10:30 AM Eucharist Youth Ministry Retreat	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 10:00-12:00 Trains and Diaper Bank